

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A chewable confectionery composition delivering to tooth surfaces a unit dose of a plaque reducing enzyme the composition comprising a small but effective amount of an enzyme which functions to disrupt or interfere with plaque formation and adhesion to tooth surfaces and a non-cariogenic sweetener, the enzyme being incorporated in the composition at a
10 temperature less than about 80°C.
2. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the enzyme is papain.
3. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is in the form
15 of a tablet.
4. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is a chewing gum.
- 20 5. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the composition has a moisture content of less than about 5% by weight.
6. The chewable composition of claim 2 wherein the composition contains the enzyme papain at a concentration of about 0.1 to about 3.0% by weight.
- 25 7. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the non-cariogenic sweetener is a sugar alcohol.
8. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the non-cariogenic sweetener
30 is an artificial sweetener.
9. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the non-cariogenic sweetener is a sugar alcohol of a disaccharide.
- 35 10. The chewable confectionery composition of claim 1 wherein the non-cariogenic sweetener is present in the composition at a concentration of about 25 to about 95% by weight.